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THE MIDDLEBURY REGISTER.

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ATTORNEY AT LAW.

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Middlebury, May 27, 1856.

JOHN W. STEWART,

MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT.

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AND SOLICITOR IN CHANCERY.

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Poetry.

From the National Era.

The Mayflower.

The trailing arbutus, or mayflower, grows

abundantly in the vicinity of Plymouth, and

was the first flower that greeted the Pil-

grims after their fearful winter.

Sad Mayflower! watched by Winter stars,

And nursed by Winter gales,

With petals of the abetted spars,

And leaves of frozen sails!

What had she in those dreary hours,

Within her ice-rimmed bay,

In common with the wild-wood flowers,

The first sweet smiles of May?

Yet, "God be praised!" the Pilgrim said,

Who saw the blossoms peer

Above the brown leaves, dry and dead,

"Behold our Mayflower here!"

"God will it; here our rest shall be,

Our years of wandering o'er

For us the Mayflower of the Sea

Shall spread her sails no more!"

Oh! sacred flower of faith and hope!

As sweetly now as then

Ye bloom on many a birchen slope,

In many a pine-dark glen.

Behind the sea-wall's rugged length,

Unchanged, your leaves unfold,

Like love behind the manly strength

Of the brave hearts of old.

So live the fathers in their sons,

Their sturdy faith be ours,

And ours the love that overruns

Its rocky strength with flowers.

The Pilgrim's wild and wintry day

His shadow round us drawn;

The Mayflower of his stormy bay,

Our Freedom's struggling cause.

But warmer suns ere long shall bring

To life the frozen soil;

And, through dead leaves of hope, shall

spring

A fresh flower of God! T. C. W.

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Miscellany.

Arab Life.

The following story is from the Life

of Jules Gerard, the Algerian lion-killer,

recently published in England:

Mohammed-ben-oumbark, belonging to

a wealthy family, which had been

stripped of all its property by the chief

of that country, before the French occu-

pation. After the death of his father he

found himself with no other fortune than

a young and pretty wife, a tent in a very

bad condition, and a beautiful sharp

sword.

"With this," said he, showing it to his

better-half, "I will procure for you a

fine tent, numerous flocks, and make

you as rich as those who have robbed us

of our patrimony." And without delay

he set to work.

The French troops destined for the

first expedition to Constantine, were at

that time gathered at the camp of

Mejzamar; and as all the surrounding

tribes were as yet unsubdued the officers

were much at a loss to procure horses

and mules. Mohammed ben-oumbark

saw this and determined to furnish them.

With that boldness which never for-

sook him, he presented himself at the

out posts, was arrested, and brought

before the commanding officer. There he

at once declared that he belonged to an

unsubdued tribe, but that he offered his

services to the French, and engaged to

furnish them with all they wanted in the

way of saddle horses and beasts of bur-

den. His apparent frankness pleased

the officers; his offers were accepted;

and the very next day he proved, by the

delivery of a first supply, what he was

capable of doing.

From that day he received regular

orders, exactly as if he had possessed large

stables of his own. They had but to

name the age and color of the horse

wanted, and the next day he made his

appearance with the animal.

To answer all these demands, Moham-

med used to practice sometimes on the

Arabs, sometimes on the Kabyles.

The former tie their horses with a rope

fixed to the ground by two pickets, in-

side or outside the tents, but of course out-

side; and the way to succeed in stealing

a horse is to get at them unseen, and to

retire in the same way. It may be con-

ceded that this is not the easiest thing

in the world, especially in a camp peop-

led by a multitude of dogs, ever on the

watch; but this was only child's play for

our robber.

The trick was still more difficult to

perform with the Kabyles, who live in

houses or garris, closed with doors and

without windows.

The way in which Mohammed pro-

ceeded with the latter was as follows:

With the agility and cunning of a cat,

he ascended to the roof of the house

in which was the beast he wished to se-

crete. After making a sufficiently large

aperture he let himself down into the

only room, to the imminent hazard of

dropping like a bird down on the very

stomach of the master of the house.

Once introduced, he felt about for the

fireplace, blew up some half-extinguished

embers, so as to be able to direct his

movements, opened the door, and march-

ed off with the animal of his choice.

If one of the inhabitants seemed dis-

posed to wake up, Mohammed quickly

laid down close to him, moaning as if

he had really been a member of the family.

If the sleeper fairly opened his eyes, oh!

then, was to him the yatanag played its

part, and closed them forever.

One night, while he was busy blowing

up a brand of half-burned wood in the

fireplace of one of his neighbors, who had

the unparadoxical impudence to possess a

horse much too handsome for him, a

sound of voices was heard outside, and

some one knocked at the door. Instant-

ly the three of four men who were in the

room jumped up; whilst they were hesi-

tating in the dark and coming them-

selves, Mohammed, changing his voice

said coolly:

"Don't disturb yourselves, I will go

and see who comes there."

At the same time he opened the door,

and perceiving two horsemen who had

already dismounted:

"Be welcome," said he to them; "pray

walk in, and I will take charge of your

beasts."

The strangers accepted the invitation,

and the robber, vaulting rapidly on one

of the horses, and taking the other by

the reins, called out the proprietor of the

house:

"I say! such a one! take good care

of your guests, my boy; and pray tell

them that Mohammed-ben-oumbark has

taken charge of their horses." So say-

ing, he put spurs to the horse and van-

ished.

Things, however, did not always go on

so smoothly; and during the course of

his stormy career, my honorable friend

has suffered by fire or by steel more

than enough to damage irretrievably the

skin of any honest man.

One day I asked him how the lions,

Anecdote of Washington.

The following is from the second vol-

of Irving's Life of Washington:

A large party of Virginia riflemen,

who had recently arrived in camp, were

strutting about Cambridge, and viewing

the collegiate buildings, now turned into

barracks. Their half Indian equipments

and fringed and ruffled hunting garbs pro-

voked the merriment of some troops from

Marblehead chiefly fishermen and sailors,

who thought nothing equal to the round

jacket and trousers. A bantering enu-

med between them. There was snow upon

the ground, and snowballs began to fly

when jokes were wanting. The parties

waxed warm with the contest. They

closed and came to blows; both sides

were reinforced, and in a little while at

least a thousand were at fist-cuffs and

there was a tumult in the camp worthy

of the days of Homer. "At this juncture,"

writes our informant, "Washington made

his appearance, whether by accident or

design I never knew. I saw none of his

aids with him; his black servant was

just behind him mounted. He threw the

bridle off his own horse into his servant's

hands, sprang from his seat, rushed into

the thickest of the melee, seized two tall,

bravely riflemen by the throat, keeping

them at arms length, talking to and

shaking them."

As they were from his own province,

he may have felt peculiarly responsible

for their good conduct; they were en-

gaged, too, in one of these sectional brawls

which were his special abhorrence; his

reprimand must, therefore, have been a

vehement one. He was commanding in

his serene moments, but irresistible in

his bursts of indignation. On the pre-

sent occasion, we are told, his appearance

and strong-lim